

## A SCENE IN THE SENATE.

## MR. RIDDLERBERGER RISES TO A POINT OF ORDER.

## THE VIRGINIA SENATOR IS SUPPRESSED ONLY AFTER MR. INGALLS HAS THREATENED TO "CALL IN THE POLICE."

Washington, Dec. 13.—After the Senate resumed consideration of the tariff bill today Mr. Riddlerberger objected to the displacement of morning business, and said that advantage had been taken of "absenteeism, occasioned by the bulkiness of the Senate."

Mr. Vance criticized the Senate committee, and declared that it was arranged "without the slightest regard on the face of the earth to the interests of the agricultural classes."

At this point, Mr. Riddlerberger rose to a point of order.

Mr. Vance—I do not care what the Senator from Virginia rises to, I decline to be interrupted. I hope he will not be permitted to interrupt me any more.

The presiding officer (Mr. Berry) in the chair, Mr. Riddlerberger will state his point of order.

Mr. Riddlerberger—I will do so when the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. Vance) takes his seat.

The presiding officer again required Mr. Riddlerberger to take his seat; but the Senator from Virginia insisted that the rules required a Senator to take his seat when another Senator rose to a point of order.

Finally, as Mr. Vance retained his standing position, and as Mr. Riddlerberger persisted in his demand, the presiding officer ruled that the Senator from Virginia was out of order, and that the Senator from North Carolina had the floor.

"That," said Mr. Riddlerberger, "is because the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Berry) does not know any better."

"The Senator from Virginia is again out of order," the presiding officer declared, "and it is a question for the Senate to determine as to its correction."

At this point Mr. Ingalls resumed the chair, and with a sharp rap of the gavel recognized the Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. Vance had not proceeded far in his argument when a "point of order" was again raised by Mr. Riddlerberger.

The presiding officer (Mr. Ingalls) asked Mr. Vance to pause until this point of order should be stated.

"And take his seat," interrupted Mr. Riddlerberger.

"The Chair will attend to the enforcement of the rules of order," said the presiding officer in a tone of rebuke. "The Senator from Virginia will state his point of order."

Mr. Riddlerberger did not persist much further, but stated his point of order—to the effect that the morning business had not been gone through with.

The presiding officer (Mr. Ingalls) then ruled that the point was well taken, and directed the Senator from Virginia to take his seat.

Mr. Riddlerberger, however, did not comply with the order, but persisted in his objection.

"If the Senator from Virginia does not take his seat," said the presiding officer in a severe and resolute manner, "the Chair will call on the executive officer of the Senate to enforce the rules."

There was no further contest, and Mr. Riddlerberger, with an air of profound disgust, retired to a seat on one of the rear sofas. Mr. Vance proceeded with his argument.

Mr. Riddlerberger took advantage of a subsequent break in the tariff discussion to bring forward again his particular grievance—which was that he had not had a chance this morning to call in the police to enforce the British Extension Treaty in open session.

He alluded to the presiding officer's threat "to call in the police" and to the consideration of the matter in open session, and declared that the Republican party wanted "to break its word in regard to the Extension Treaty."

The presiding officer (Mr. Ingalls) then ruled that the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Berry) was entitled to the floor.

Mr. Riddlerberger then closed the session, and offered the following resolution, which, under the rule, went over till to-morrow:

Resolved, That the Senate, in consideration of the resolution by the election of its officers on the first day of the session after the first day of January, 1889.

## BUSINESS BEFORE THE HOUSE.

## CLAIMS OF UNION SOLDIERS TO HOMESTEADS ON THE PUBLIC LAND STRIP UNDER DISCUSSION.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Mr. McCree, of Kentucky, stated in the House to-day that on account of the resignation of Mr. Ingalls, New York, the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs had devolved upon him. He therefore desired to resign the chairmanship of the Committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Weaver, of Iowa (upon whom the chairmanship would devolve, stated that he was already a member of a committee, and he therefore declined the new honor.

The speaker thereupon designated Mr. Glover, of Missouri, for the position.

Mr. Spaulding, of New York, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the bill authorizing the retirement of John G. Fremont as a major-general. Private calendar.

The House passed a bill for the application of the Court of Claims of the United States to the Cherokee Indian claims. The amount involved is \$400,000.

The House in Committee of the Whole considered the Oklahoma bill.

An amendment providing that the unoccupied lands west of the 96th degree of west longitude shall be open to settlement only by the consent of the Cherokee Indians, or any other tribe or tribes having interest therein, was rejected—38-120.

Mr. Payson, of Illinois, offered an amendment providing that the rights of homesteaders under the existing Homestead laws shall not in any degree be impaired by the bill.

Mr. Weaver, of Iowa, inquired who was to pay for the land.

Mr. Payson replied that the Government would pay for it. This was the first time in land legislation the rights of soldiers under the Homestead law had been sought to be impaired.

He said that if a ye and nay vote were taken on the amendment, Mr. Payson would not vote against it.

Mr. Springer—I will vote against it here and on a ye and nay vote.

Mr. Payson said that he proposed to insist on the rights not only of the Union soldier but of the landless poor everywhere to have a free home if they endured the privations which they would have to undergo in settling on the land.

Mr. Weaver, of Iowa, thought the amendment was a proposition to stab the bill in the name of the Union soldier. He protested against dishonoring the Union soldiers by placing them in the attitude of mendicants and beggars.

Mr. Warner, of Missouri, said that if the lands were public lands, he would be in favor of the amendment, but they were not. The proposition was to purchase them.

Mr. Payson suggested that Oklahoma would embrace the 5,000,000 acres of the Public Land Strip.

Mr. Warner replied that that was a small portion of the land in the Public Land Strip.

He said that he would support the amendment, but that he would not support the bill.

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## RESTRICTIONS PROBABLE.

## A RESULT OF INVESTIGATING TRUSTS.

## THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL LAWS CLOSES ITS SESSION.

The State Senate Committee investigating "trusts" held its final sitting in New-York yesterday. If any future meetings are held, they will be in Albany. Eleven witnesses were examined during the day, and their testimony related entirely to the effect of the NCAV bill regulating grain elevator charges, and to the Sugar Trust. The first witness was Henry S. Raw, a West India commission merchant who deals in raw sugar. He testified that the market for that commodity was now almost entirely restricted to the refiners in the Trust and their brokers. It was not the public, he said, but the commission merchants and brokers who were the chief sufferers by the Trust.

Adam R. Gray, engaged in the grain lifting business in a steamer, was somewhat less testifying. He testified that the cost of putting grain on board a steamer was less since the passage of the McAvoy bill. He had brought a friendly suit to test the law and hoped he would be successful. He paid all expenses out of his own pocket and no one was in collusion with him. Albert J. Wheeler, of Buffalo, had been connected with the elevator business for twenty-five years. He said that the bill was practically a dead letter, for although it took off an eighth from the cost of elevating, elevating and storing a boat load of grain, they had got back that eighth and put it some other way. He testified that the bill was a failure, and that it had done nothing to help the farmer. At a charge of 5-8 of a cent it would be impossible to do business. The railroad elevators, because the railroads carried grain all the way through. The forty elevators owned in Buffalo were in a combination and charged the same rates, but could not order the closing of an elevator. Idle elevators and storage houses received a small share of the profits of the others.

Regarding the effect of the bill on the canal-forwarding business, Mr. Gray testified that he had been obliged to accept from the elevator men a receipt conditional upon their promise to return the 3-8 of a cent taken from the old rates. Charles Gibson, Stephen P. Sherman and George Sandrock, grain commission merchants of Buffalo, and Frank Beadle and H. Morse, large canal-boat owners, confirmed the testimony of the previous witnesses on their respective sides of the question. The commission men were confident that the McAvoy bill discouraged investment of new capital in elevators, because if they could not get their charges at 5-8 it might fix them at 3-8. They thought the added security given to warehouse receipts by the combined responsibility of the associated elevator and warehouse owners made these securities far more readily negotiable. The boat owners were agreed that the bill had been of no real benefit and would not be except, perhaps, in times of big crops and close competition with the railroads.

## ALEXANDER E. ORR'S TESTIMONY.

The first witness examined at the afternoon session was Alexander E. Orr, president of the Exchange of the Lake and Erie Canal. He testified that he had been connected with the elevator business for several years, and that he had been a member of the Exchange of the Lake and Erie Canal. He testified that the bill was a failure, and that it had done nothing to help the farmer. At a charge of 5-8 of a cent it would be impossible to do business. The railroad elevators, because the railroads carried grain all the way through. The forty elevators owned in Buffalo were in a combination and charged the same rates, but could not order the closing of an elevator. Idle elevators and storage houses received a small share of the profits of the others.

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